

## NEW YORK HERALD.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, near Broome  
Street.—LUSHON'S NEW YORK THEATRE, Nos. 728  
and 730 Broadway.—THE BLACK DOMINO.—Between You  
and Me and the Fox.WOOD'S THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas  
Hotel.—A MODEL OF A WIFE.—GRACE AT NEW YORK.—Irish  
Tales.GEORGE CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—The Old School  
of Minstrelsy, Ballroom, Madison Square, at the Fifth  
Avenue Opera House, No. 2 and West Twenty-fourth St.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 226 Broadway, opposite  
Metropolitan Hotel.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS, 226  
The Flying Theatre.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—SING-  
ING, DANCING, BURLESQUE, &c.—THE FEMALE CLERKS  
in Washington.BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broad-  
way.—DAN RAYMOND'S NEW JERSEY MINSTRELS.—NASSAU  
THEATRE, 226 Broadway, at the Fifth Avenue Opera  
House, No. 2 and West Twenty-fourth St.HOOVER'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN MIN-  
STRELS.—BALLROOM, BROOKLYN AND FAVORITES.NEW YORK MUSICAL ACADEMY, 615 Broadway.—  
Open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.BROOKLYN ATHLETIC.—ROBERT HULLEN'S GRAND  
BOILER DRUMMING.—SPRING.

## WITH SUPPLEMENT.

New York, Tuesday, January 30, 1866.

## THE NEWS.

## THE RIVER PLATE WAR.

Later and important affairs regarding the war on the river plate are furnished in the columns of our Rio Janeiro correspondence brought by the steamship South America, from that port, which arrived here yesterday. The letter of President Lopez, of Paraguay, to General Mitre, the Argentine President, alluded to in our previous dispatches, instead of containing propositions of peace, as at first surmised, proved to be of a very different character. Lopez charges the allies with conducting the war in a most barbarous and outrageous manner, and avows his determination, if satisfaction is not accorded, to retaliate in the severest manner, and to prosecute hostilities with ferocity and renewed vigor. To this General Mitre replies at length, denying the principal allegations of his antagonist, avowing that he has nothing to regret or take back, and warning Lopez against pushing matters to the threatened extremity. We give the correspondence in full. It affords no indications of early peace. There was no cessation of hostile operations, the allied armies still keeping up their march in pursuit of the retreating Paraguayans, while the latter, though falling back, were far from vanquished. Disease and starvation, however, had committed terrible havoc among the troops on both sides. In addition to the war news, our correspondence contains much matter of interest regarding the domestic affairs of Brazil, its railroad and other enterprises, and the progress of the schemes for emigration thither of persons from the Southern States of this country.

## CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday a petition from the St. Paul Board of Trade was presented, asking for the improvement of the Upper Mississippi and the negotiation with the British provinces of a new reciprocity treaty, covering stipulations for the freedom to American vessels of the Willand and St. Lawrence canals and their enlargement to an extent sufficient to pass vessels of one thousand tons. Another remonstrance against the removal of the reciprocity treaty was also presented. Bills were introduced and referred to select in all the States all distinctions of civil and political rights on account of race, color or condition, to reorganize the national judiciary, to raise the standard of admission to the West Point Academy and increase the number of cadets, and to provide for the various colleges of the country. The resolution granting a portion of the Military Reserve on St. Clair river, Michigan, for railroad purposes, was adopted, and the bill to restrict the fee for collecting a soldier's claim, except in certain cases, to ten dollars, was passed. A resolution of thanks to Vice Admiral Farragut and his officers and men was presented and referred to the Naval Committee. The bill to protect the freedmen in the enjoyment of their rights was then taken up, and its discussion occupied the remainder of the open session, Mr. Trumbull being the principal speaker, and addressing the Senate at length in its support. An executive session was held, on the conclusion of which an adjournment took place.

In the House of Representatives the resolutions introduced some days ago by Mr. Niblack, democrat, of Indiana, commending President Johnson's refusal to accept the gift of a carriage and horses tendered him by New York merchants, were adopted, as was also a resolution instructing the Committee on Rules to report on the propriety of prohibiting the use of the hall for other than legislative purposes. Another resolution calling for the speedy trial and punishment of Jeff. Davis was offered, but, after some debate, laid over. The District of Columbia Committee were instructed to report a bill to prevent the exercise of the elective franchise in the District by all persons who were at any time in the rebel service, and a bill providing for the transfer from the State to the national courts of all cases now pending in which the parties are non-residents was introduced and referred to the Judiciary Committee. The consideration of the Reconstruction Committee's proposed amendment to the constitution, fixing a new basis for representation and taxation, was then resumed from last week, and continued to the adjournment. Mr. Raymond took the floor and spoke at length in opposition to the measure and in support of President Johnson's reconstruction policy and proceedings. He also favored the immediate admission of such Southern representatives as can take the required oath, and advocated the abolition of the Reconstruction Committee itself. On the conclusion of his remarks other members spoke. The vote on the question will be taken to-day.

President Johnson yesterday sent a communication to the Senate stating that in his opinion, as well as that of the Secretary of War, it would not at present be promotive of the interests of the country to submit to Congress, as requested by that body, the correspondence of General Sheridan and the officers of our army relative to events and the condition of affairs on the Rio Grande border.

General Sherman visited both houses of Congress yesterday while they were in session, and received an enthusiastic reception. In the House of Representatives three cheers for him were proposed by a member, and heartily given both on the floor and in the galleries, accompanied in the latter portion of the hall by the rising of the assemblage, the waving of hats and the waving of handkerchiefs.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

Both branches of the Legislature assembled at seven o'clock last evening. In the Senate bills were introduced to continue the improvements of the navigation of the Hudson river and to make appropriations therefor, and to encourage the importation of laborers. The bills making appropriations to pay the canal debt and to submit to the people the question of a convention to revise the constitution were ordered to a third reading.

In the Assembly Mr. Lathrop was unanimously elected Speaker pro tem. for the remainder of the session. Mr. Tremain having communicated to the House his inability, on account of professional engagements, to be present for several days. Bills were ordered to a third reading to authorize the Comptroller of New York to loan fifty thousand dollars water stock, and for attorneys and counsellors of the Supreme Court residing in adjoining States to practise in the courts of this State.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

An account is furnished in our St. Thomas and Havana correspondence of the movements of Secretary Seward in the West Indies. In both St. Thomas and Cuba he was received with marked courtesy and demonstrations of respect by the authorities and people. While on the former island he had an interview with Santa Anna, and, as is reported, stated to that distinguished Mexican exile that the United States will never permit the permanent establishment of Maximilian's empire in Mexico. In Havana the Secretary's reception was cordial, and even enthusiastic, every possible attention being shown him and his party by the Captain General, the local officials and the citizens generally. The Captain General entertained them at a banquet, and placed his private residence at the Secretary's disposal, which last

ter, however, was declined. On his departure Mr. Seward and his fellow voyagers were accompanied to sea by a number of Cubans who had engaged small steamers specially for the purpose. The present condition of affairs in the republic of St. Domingo, as described by our St. Domingo City correspondent, does not augur well for the stability of the government of President Baz, for though the revolution which broke out immediately after his accession to power has been suppressed, there are signs that it will before long be succeeded by another, owing to the alleged tyrannical course of the President and his unpopularity with the mass of the people. Several of the principal leaders of the recent insurrection have escaped from the country. Among the revolutionists, it appears, was General, who headed the late unsuccessful revolt in the adjoining republic of Hayti against President Goffard. He has been caught and is now a prisoner.

Late accounts from the West India Island of Guadalupe state that the cholera still continued to rage there with fearful fatality. A despatch from Milledgeville, Georgia, states that the friends of Alexander H. Stephens will put him forward in the Legislature of the State to-day as a candidate for the United States Senate, regardless of his wishes or feelings. A bill was yesterday introduced in the Legislature to allow banks to repudiate debts contracted for war purposes.

The court martial in Savannah has acquitted and ordered the release of the rebel General Moore, who has been on trial for some days on charge of causing the shooting of national soldiers who had enlisted in the rebel ranks to avoid starving to death, and who had deserted from the rebels and been recaptured by them. At a special meeting of the Board of Aldermen yesterday afternoon resolutions were adopted appointing a committee to inquire into the practicability of the city manufacturing the gas for the public lamps; directing the insertion, in three or more daily papers, of advertisements giving description of all unknown persons found dead, and appointing a special committee of five to make arrangements for the proper celebration of Washington's Birthday. The Board adjourned to Thursday next.

The Board of Councilmen held a session yesterday, and transacted considerable business. The Committee on Finance were instructed to report on the expediency of requiring the City Chamberlain to place the moneys in his hands to the credit of the city at interest. The Committee on Lamps and Gas were instructed to investigate the alleged charges made against the several gas companies of the city, and empowered to take the necessary steps to protect the rights of the gas consumers. The Board concurred with the Aldermen in authorizing the Clerk of the Corporation, and caused ten thousand copies to be printed, the compensation of the compiler to be thirty-five hundred dollars. It was stated by a member that this Manual cost the city fifty-three thousand dollars. They also concurred in adopting an ordinance creating the office of City Railroad Inspector, at a salary of thirty-five hundred dollars per annum, and in the resolution for advertising the unknown dead. The hour of meeting was changed from two to four o'clock.

The report of the Internal Revenue Commission appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury to investigate and suggest needed amendments to the present Internal Revenue act was submitted to Congress yesterday, and appears in this morning's HERALD. It is a document of considerable length, but will be found to contain matter of much importance to all classes of citizens. In submitting this report to Congress, Secretary of the Treasury McCulloch states that all its recommendations have his hearty approval, with the single exception of the one in regard to the time at which the payment of the national debt should be commuted.

An interesting meeting of shoemakers and shoe dealers was recently held at the Mercer House, in this city, a report of which appears in our Supplement sheet to-day, to petition Congress to take the tax from manufacturers of leather and place it on the raw material. It was stated at the meeting as probable that there would be a radical change in the Internal Revenue laws, at least as regards the interests of the shoe dealers and manufacturers.

A prominent business firm, whose names are withheld from publication for the present, were victimized a few days since to the extent of fourteen thousand dollars. An individual whose real name is unknown called upon the firm, purchased ten thousand dollars in gold, and tendered in payment therefor a check for fourteen thousand dollars, signed by his own name, and purporting to be certified by the teller of the Chatham National Bank, by which institution the check was made payable. On presentation at the bank the certification signature was proven to be a forgery, the check being utterly valueless. The case, it is understood, has been given in charge of the police.

The financial circles of Boston were excited yesterday by the discovery that on Saturday last forged checks on four prominent firms of that city, amounting altogether to eighteen thousand four hundred dollars, had been presented at different banks and paid. Additional checks of the same character on two other firms for four thousand eight hundred dollars were presented but not cashed. The forgers have not yet been apprehended.

Application was made yesterday, based on affidavit, and presented to United States District Attorney Dickinson, calling on him to proceed by suit in favor of the United States against the California, Oregon and Mexico Steamship Company for the collection of penalties provided by national law for cases where steam vessels have more than the stipulated number of tons of berths. The District Attorney has the matter under consideration.

A case was put yesterday, before Judge Shipman, in the United States Circuit Court, in which Amick & Co. were plaintiffs against ex Collector of the Port, Draper, to recover certain duties in alleged excess, paid under protest, upon an article of importation known as ashli. This article, the plaintiffs allege, is under the tariff law of the United States exempt from duty. The Collector held otherwise, and that the tariff imposed by him was legal. Judge Shipman will charge the jury in the case this morning.

Commissioner Osborn has decided that Charles Mitchell, charged with printing and selling counterfeit internal revenue cigar stamps, shall be held for trial on the facts, and the accused has been committed in default of bail.

The examination of witnesses in the case of George Boyce, accused of robbing Samuel B. Terry, a messenger of the Farmers and Citizens' Bank of Williamsburg, was closed yesterday in the Essex Market Police Court, and the Justice's decision will be rendered on Thursday. A report of yesterday's proceedings is given in this morning's HERALD Supplement.

The inquest in the case of the death of Robert Mitchell, of the schooner John Boynton, who was murdered by river thieves on the night of the 30th of December last, while the vessel was at anchor off Riker's Island, was summarily disposed of yesterday. Patrick Conway, arrested on suspicion, was brought before Judge Reynolds of the City Court, Brooklyn, when his counsel said that if his client was guilty of the offence charged, it had been committed in Queens county, and of course outside the jurisdiction of the coroners of Kings county. The Judge took the same view of the case, and ordered the discharge of the prisoner.

The inquest in the case of John McDonald, who met his death from injuries received in a street fight in Brooklyn, and which has been pending for some time, was concluded yesterday. The jury found that death resulted from kicks inflicted by John Sommerfeld, who was committed to await the action of the Grand Jury.

The charity ball took place last night at the Academy of Music, and was largely attended.

The Germans held another of their carnival-like festivals last night at the Germania Assembly Rooms, in the Bowery, which were crowded on the occasion.

Frederick Douglas, the colored orator, delivered a lecture in the Brooklyn Academy of Music last evening, his subject being "The Assassination and its Lessons," in which he expressed his strong disapproval of the course which President Johnson is taking in reference to the treatment of the negroes.

Mr. John C. Dodge, of 59 State street, Brooklyn, aged sixty-seven years, and who was a brother of Mr. Dodge, of the firm of Clark, Dodge & Co., was killed yesterday, while attempting to cross Broadway, near Day street, being caught and crushed between two of the mass of passing vehicles.

land, and his name has been familiar to all classes of his countrymen. In our Supplement sheet this morning will be found an extended and interesting sketch of the life of the distinguished deceased. The funeral will take place at two o'clock on next Friday afternoon.

Some additional particulars respecting the accident which occurred on the Hudson River Railroad on Saturday last are furnished in our Supplement sheet. Among the injured is Miss Emma M. Casely, a young lady from Utica, who had her left arm broken in two places and two fingers of the left hand cut off. Surgeon Tucker yesterday decided to admit to probate the contested will of Abraham Westervelt, deceased. The contestants, who were children of the deceased, alleged that he had become partially insane through spiritualism. The Surrogate, however, holds that it does not appear that the delusions of fancied communications from another world influenced Mr. Westervelt in the making of this will, the provisions of which seem rather to have been dictated by natural and rational feelings.

The City Inspector reports the deaths during the past week in the city as 404, of which 161 were of boys and 127 girls, being a total increase of 50 over the previous week, and a decrease of 3 as compared with the mortality of the corresponding period in 1865. Of the deaths, 216 were of children less than five years of age.

The stock market was, on the whole, steady yesterday, and closed moderately firm. Gold closed at 140 1/2. Government bonds were dull.

The rise of gold to 140 and upwards imparted more animation to the merchandise market yesterday, but there was not much activity, and business on the whole was light. Foreign goods were quiet but firm for nearly every description. Groceries were dull. Cotton was dull and mostly nominal. Petroleum was quiet. On 'Change flour was quiet and unchanged. Wheat was dull and nominal. Corn was in fair demand and steady. Pork and lard were dull and lower. Whiskey was dull and nominally unchanged.

## The Freedmen's Bureau—The Wild Legislation of Congress.

We have already chronicled the fact that the bill enlarging the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau has passed the United States Senate by a large majority. It is therefore now before the House of Representatives, and to that body must the people look for the rejection of the scheme.

Prepared as the American people must have been for almost every kind of wild and reckless legislation, under radical rule in Congress, we believe we express their unanimous sentiment when we state that a measure having the ramifications of this Freedmen's Bureau never entered their minds. What does this bill propose? It provides that its operations shall extend to refugees and freedmen in the section covered by the rebellion; that this section shall be divided into districts; those districts into sub-districts, not exceeding the number of counties or parishes in each State; and that each district and sub-district shall have its local agent, at a salary of fifteen hundred dollars per annum. Now that the war is over, we do not see what the government has to do with refugees, supposing them to be white, any more than it has to do with the paupers in our almshouse at Bellevue. We therefore, in considering the subject of this Freedmen's Bureau, throw them out of the scale altogether.

Now, how will this measure operate? By the provisions of the bill the Secretary of War is authorized to "issue provisions, clothing, fuel and other supplies, including medical stores and transportation, as may be deemed needful," &c. In other words, it is establishing a gigantic government poor-house for the emancipated blacks; and those who have a plantation experience of the negro character know that he will not be slow to avail himself of the benefits of an eleemosynary institution like the one proposed. The measure is not only a bad, but a wicked one. It demoralizes the negro; it encourages him in habits of laziness; it offers a premium to indolence and affords shelter and protection to the black man which have never been, and probably never will be, accorded by the government to the poor white man in the South. It will place a useless government official in every county and parish in the late revolting States, constituting altogether an immense army of greedy office-holders. It will saddle the country with an enormous expenditure, say fifteen, perhaps twenty millions of dollars a year. It will force upon the government a million of negroes as perpetual dependents and pensioners, all, no doubt, perfectly contented, because they have all they want—plenty of rations, abundance to eat and drink, and no work. It will foster the hiving of drones. It will make the idle more idle and the lazy lazier. Briefly, it will paralyze the industry of the South, and is nothing in any particular but a reckless, extravagant, gigantic and preposterous scheme of government charity. And what will make it more interesting to our overburdened taxpayers, they will have to pay for it. If the bill is intended as an experiment, it may serve the purpose of an enabling act to permit those Congressmen who have a single idea—and that about the negro—to ventilate their oratory. In that light it may be regarded as a furnishing bureau, established to serve up food for radical and declamatory speeches. But if it is intended as a serious matter, it is calculated, not only to embarrass President Johnson in his restoration policy, but to entail a vast amount of mischief and injury on the country. The people of the South do not want any measure of the kind. They dread its effects. They are ready to do what they have always heretofore done—take care of their sick, aged and decrepit servants. The servants themselves, as a general thing, are doing very well under the peculiar circumstances of the situation. Many who left their former masters, and came North, have returned home and been kindly received and taken care of. The former relations between master and servant having been summarily sundered, it will take a little while before the relationship or anything likened to it is restored. But the well fed and kindly treated colored servant, after having tasted the benefits of liberty in the North, and received the cold charities of his bawling Northern sympathizers, is prone to return to the old homestead in the sunny South and resume the easy life he once led—free, to be sure, but still having an irrepressible yearning for the scenes amid which he was domesticated. Things are gradually becoming tranquilized in the South, especially with respect to the uses and obligations of labor and capital, and all the tinkering and hammering which radicals in Congress indulge in, and all the bills they propose like the one before us, are only calculated to keep alive a feeling of irritation and resentment, and prolong to an indefinite period the restoration of good order and amicable social and business relations, both with the North and with the Southern laboring population.

If Congress is determined to proceed in this preposterous and costly experiment of charity, why does it not take the cases of our destitute and disabled white veterans into consideration? Many of these brave fellows have families depending upon them for a pitiful subsistence, and the widows and orphans made by the war can be numbered by thousands. Why does

not the government look after these poor and worthy creatures, instead of concocting schemes to feed, clothe and demoralize fat Southern negroes, who have been accustomed to labor and have extensive fields for employment all around them? Or Congress might take care of the poor emigrant as he lands upon our shores, point him the way to the government poor-house and keep him there. In short, there are numerous ways in which the government can spend its millions of dollars, pile on taxation and task the people until they groan again under their burdens; but there is none so transparently preposterous as that of the Freedmen's Bureau bill now before the House of Representatives. If it is not killed there, the force of wild, reckless and extravagant legislation can no further go.

## Report of the Revenue Commission—Important Recommendations for the Regulation of Taxes.

The Commission appointed at the last session of Congress to investigate the value of taxable articles of large consumption as sources of national revenue, sent their report to the House yesterday, when it was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means. The object of the Commission was to ascertain the best means of equalizing excise and income taxation, and at the same time securing to the government a remunerative revenue with the least possible oppression. We give a very full synopsis of the report in another column. It will be found of considerable importance, and its statistics voluminous and valuable.

Commencing with the article of cotton as a source of revenue, they show that the average yield during the years between 1825 and 1861 was 71,619,716 bales—the crop of the latter year amounting to 3,656,986 bales, of which 843,740 were consumed in the United States. The evidence furnished from all sources demonstrates that all the efforts made to raise cotton for the use of Europe, during the late war, in India, Brazil, Egypt, China and Japan, were complete failures. America alone can be depended on for cotton. During the years 1860-'61 eighty-seven and a half per cent of this article consumed in Europe was American. As a source of revenue, the Commission recommends that a tax of five cents a pound shall be levied upon all cotton raised in the United States after the 1st of July, 1866, and that this tax shall be collected, not on the plantations, but from the manufacturers and from the export merchants, at the port of shipment; no vessel with cotton on board to be furnished with clearance papers without a certificate from the Assessor of Internal Revenue. But they also propose a drawback on all exported cotton fabrics of as many cents per pound on the cloth exported as are assessed on the raw cotton entering into the manufacture of the cloth; and in addition to the drawback they suggest that all cotton goods exported should be exempt from the payment of all other excise taxes. In connection with the excise tax on raw cotton it is recommended that a specific duty be laid upon all imported cotton fabrics of as many cents per pound as the excise tax puts upon raw cotton. The Commission calculates that with a cotton crop of four millions of bales—which is less than that of 1860—the government would receive a revenue from cotton of \$88,000,000, and thus be enabled to reduce the tax upon other articles which are less able to bear it.

With regard to coffee it is stated that the annual consumption in this country the year before the war was two hundred million pounds, twenty-nine per cent of the annual exports from all the coffee producing countries from 1854 to 1864. The Commission, finding that the immense consumption of coffee will return a revenue during the next fiscal year of eight millions, at the present duty of five cents per pound, therefore recommend that this rate shall remain unchanged, but that a tax of two cents a pound, instead of one cent, be imposed upon all ground coffee, or other material, intended to adulterate coffee; the same to be collected by stamping the packages. As an experimental measure, it is suggested that a license fee of \$50 be required from every one cultivating chicory for sale, and \$100 from those manufacturing adulterated coffee, or anything to be sold as a substitute for coffee.

The average annual consumption of cane sugars in the Atlantic States is shown to be nearly nineteen million pounds; and in the United States the consumption of sugars of all kinds is 922,890,000 pounds. The Commission finds, upon reliable evidence, that the maximum product of domestic cane sugar for the year 1865-'67 will not exceed 50,000 tons, and that the consumption of the country for the year 1867-'68 will probably require an importation of 285,625 tons of foreign sugar. It is recommended, therefore, that the excise tax of three per cent on all sales of sugar refiners be repealed, and that in lieu the import and excise on all foreign and domestic cane sugars be advanced half a cent a pound, and on all foreign and domestic molasses two cents a gallon. The Commission believes that by this method all the objections growing out of the present system will be removed, and a largely increased revenue accrue to the government. An additional one-half cent on 600,000,000 pounds of imported sugar will yield \$3,000,000, or nearly one hundred per cent more than the revenue derived during the last fiscal year from a tax of three per cent on the sales of refiners.

The tax on the manufacture of distilled liquors is to be reduced from two dollars to one dollar a gallon.

The tax on brokers' sales is reduced to one cent on the hundred dollars. The same applies to gold; but in this connection it is suggested to put a tax of five per cent on all sales when the party has not the material on hand to deliver. This will make a revolution in the system of short sales.

The tax on petroleum and crude oils, on watches, carriages, pianos, and on all small manufactures of wearing apparel, boots and shoes, &c., books and pamphlets, is to be repealed.

In the income tax an exemption of one thousand dollars, instead of six hundred dollars, is recommended. The Commission expects that a revenue of nearly four hundred millions will be obtained by this system, against two hundred and eleven millions which was derived from taxation in 1864. Thus it will be seen that the adoption of this plan will increase the revenue of the government and render the burden of

taxation upon the people lighter. If it should become a law, it will prove the most popular form of taxation we have yet reached.

## What's in a Name?—A Hint to Maximilian.

Maximilian's troubles are increasing daily. The Mexican republicans will not cease fighting; the United States continue to ignore his imperial existence; his Belgian soldiers are tired of fighting and protest against his barbarous policy; the French people object to send him any more men and any more money; Napoleon is getting into financial difficulties of much greater importance to him than the fortunes of his protégé; the revolution in Spain will prevent Maximilian from receiving further aid from Europe in any form; and, worse than all, everybody seems to look upon his expulsion from Mexico as a foregone conclusion. Under these circumstances, since Maximilian is totally incapable of helping himself, and since nobody else is willing or able to help him, we have given his unfortunate case the most careful consideration, and are now ready to suggest a perfectly simple, easy and practical plan by which he may remedy all the evils by which he is surrounded, and remain in Mexico, not only with the consent of this government, but with its positive approval. Let him immediately cease to wear his crown, his sceptre and his imperial purple, wear a suit of black broadcloth as his official costume, and change his title from Emperor to President, and the thing is accomplished.

Shakespeare asks "What's in a name?" and perhaps Maximilian may think that these would be nothing gained by this simple substitution of one title for another. But when he comes to reflect upon the subject as deeply as we have done, he will discover that our plan is by no means so absurd as it at first appears. The Mexicans decidedly object to have an Emperor, and assassinated the person who assumed that title prior to Maximilian's advent; but they have no objections to a President, having selected the republican form of government unanimously. The United States will not allow a Mexican empire to be established on their border; but they have no right to interfere with a Mexican President, even though he come from Austria. If Mexico and the United States were satisfied Maximilian would have no further difficulty in obtaining all the money he required by means of foreign loans; for it is the opposition of this country which renders his securities so exceedingly doubtful in the eyes of European financiers. Napoleon could find no fault with such an arrangement, and would, indeed, be flattered by it; for it is a leaf from his own book, translated from French to Mexican. Napoleon's uncle was Emperor of France, and was deposed by force of arms at Waterloo. An interval elapsed, and then the present Emperor saw an opportunity to restore the Napoleonic dynasty. But at the same time he was shrewd enough to perceive that France did not wish another Emperor just then; and so he hid his crown under a black silk hat, turned his sceptre into a cane, and, by a manoeuvre which we call ballot box stuffing, procured his election as President. After that, to become Emperor was as easy as taking off his hat and giving a few commands to well disciplined soldiers. There is an example for Maximilian. Let him make his arrangements for a presidential election, and then resign his crown, and his position will be secured for the rest of his life.

It happens that at present everything favors the scheme which we propose. In point of fact, Mexico has no President with a very clear claim to the office. Juarez, who was Chief Justice, succeeded Comonfort, by a constitutional provision, without a popular election. His term expired some time ago, and, under the republican constitution, Chief Justice Ortega should have taken the presidency. But, instead of this, Juarez extended his own term by a coup d'état; and, in order to make assurance doubly sure, issued a proclamation denouncing Ortega and putting him under arrest. Now, as Ortega is not exercising the Presidential functions, and as the term of President Juarez has constitutionally expired, Maximilian has only to cause himself to be elected and he may claim to be President of Mexico de jure and de facto, under the old constitution and under the new. The power being the same, what choice is there between the titles? "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet," and President of Mexico sounds as grand and is much more substantial than Emperor of Mexico. Indeed, as the times go, the title of President is the more imposing. No monarch of Europe can compare in dignity with the President of the United States; no king or queen can command so large an army; no emperor or empress governs so magnificent a country. Old dynasties, like those of Austria and Russia, seek alliances with him; the best laid plots of the Emperor Napoleon are thwarted by his non-concurrence, and the Queen of England would cheerfully relinquish the Koh-i-noor could she restore the former friendly relations between her government and his. The title of President is really superior to that of Emperor; for the latter originally meant only a general, the commander of an army. It is, therefore, totally inapplicable to Maximilian, because he has no army to command, since his troops belong to France and are controlled by representatives of the French government. In another point of view it would ill become Maximilian to regard the title of President as inferior; for Napoleon, to whom he owes everything, once wore it, and President Johnson, to whose forbearance his continued stay in Mexico is mainly due, now bears it proudly, with the assent of thirty-one millions of people, to the admiration of the world. We consequently advise Maximilian to give a new phase to the Mexican question by becoming President Maximilian; at once; and in this event he will find it no difficult matter to obtain a diplomatic recognition from this government, as Señor Romero, a very accomplished ambassador from the Mexican republic, is already firmly established at Washington.

A SURE THING.—It was once said in England, on the occasion of a notable party victory gained by skilful manœuvring off posed to blundering folly, that the victors had "stolen the clothes of their opponents while the latter were in swimming." Stevens and his associate radicals did just this to the moderate republicans and the democracy on the negro suffrage vote. The poor, simple, innocent fellows puddled away in the water; and the adroit Stevens manœuvred so well that he left them naked there; and there they are still. How do they feel?

Our City Delegation in Congress on the Negro Suffrage Question.—The record of our city delegation in Congress on the bill granting the right of suffrage to the blacks of the District of Columbia involves such a course of inconsistency, hypocrisy, stultification and party trickery by the members concerned as will surely be remembered against them by their constituents, republicans and democrats. Both parties, in this city and its immediate surroundings, are, we may say, unanimously in favor of the reconstruction policy of President Johnson, embracing the idea that if the suffrage anywhere South is to be given to the blacks it should be under certain careful restrictions. But look at the record of our city representatives in Congress on this subject. When, the other day, the bill granting unqualified suffrage to the blacks of the District of Columbia was before the House, on the motion of Mr. Hale, of New York (republican, from the interior), to recommend the bill, with instructions to amend it by putting in certain conditions of property and intelligence, the vote stood fifty-three to one hundred and seventeen. There was a majority present in favor of this proposition.

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The question recurs, where was this majority? It was in the hands of the democrats, thirty-seven votes. Had they given these votes in support of the fifty-three conservatives for the recommendation, the bill, by a majority of eight, would have been returned to the committee to be amended with the aforesaid restrictions. But instead of voting to recommend with the republican conservatives, the whole thirty-seven democrats voted with Thaddeus Stevens and his radicals for Wilson's unqualified negro suffrage bill. And thus the New York city delegation were divided:—

For qualified negro suffrage.—Messrs. Darling and Raymond—2 (republicans).

For unqualified negro suffrage.—Messrs. Brooks, Chanler, Jones and Taylor—4 (democrats).

We find, too, that a majority of the republican members from the State outside of this city voted with Raymond and Darling, although they were not supported by a solitary democrat from this or any other State. The democrats voted solid with Thaddeus Stevens; for it was a party trick of more importance to them than principle, consistency, the administration or the country. It was a specimen of party duplicity and rascality broadly exhibiting the hollowness of their professions in support of President Johnson—a trick which shows that when they can't use him for their party purposes they will use Thaddeus Stevens. They will buy and sell in Congress after the fashion of Tammany and Mozart Hall. By buying and selling they dream of restoring to power the fleshless skeleton of the old defunct and dissected democratic party. They seem to have an idea of securing President Johnson upon a capital in the House of Representatives of thirty-seven votes.

But the democrats having defeated the recommendation of this bill, the question, recurring upon its passage granting unqualified suffrage to the blacks of the District of Columbia, the bill was passed—yes 116, nays 64. And here, again, we have another shameful exhibition of fictitious trickery in the course of the republican conservatives. Had the fifty-three in the vote for recommendation voted with the democrats against the unqualified bill, it would have been defeated; but there were only nineteen republicans equal in moral courage to this test. All the rest, at the crack of their party whip, went over to Stevens. On the passage of the bill the New York city delegation stood:—

For unqualified negro suffrage.—Messrs. Darling and Raymond—3 (republicans).

Against it.—Messrs. Brooks, Chanler, Jones and Taylor—4 (democrats).

Here the "little joker" is transferred to the other thimble; the mass of the republican conservatives are with Stevens, and the democrats are paid off in their own coin—treachery for treachery—an example of fictitious juggling on both sides utterly disgraceful and contemptible. Thus the whole New York city delegation—Raymond and Brooks, Darling and Chanler, Jones and Taylor—stand committed upon the record to unqualified negro suffrage—some on the recommendation and some on the passage of this District bill. We thus place them before their constituents, so that they may be held to a proper account for their course of trickery, double-dealing and hypocrisy, by which this bill of unqualified negro suffrage was passed.

## GEORGIA.

Proceedings of the Legislature.—Banks to Be Permitted to Repudiate Debts Contracted During the Rebellion.—Alex. M. Stephens to Be a Candidate for United States Senator, Regardless of His Wishes.—The Rebel General Mercer Acquitted, &c.

Milledgeville, Jan. 29, 1866. Senator Gibson introduced a bill in the Legislature to-day allowing banks to repudiate debts contracted for war purposes.

Mr. Stephens' friends will run him for the Senate (long term) to-morrow, regardless of his wishes or feelings.

Savannah, Ga., Jan. 29, 1866. The Confederate General Mercer, tried by military commission for the murder of seven Union prisoners, was acquitted and released from prison yesterday.

Three soldiers of the Twelfth Maine regiment have been under trial for the murder of a bartender named Carden, in November last. No evidence existed against them.

A steamer from the coast yesterday brought three hundred freedmen from the sea islands, returning to their old homes.

STON WALL COLLAPSE.—The destruction by fire of the handsome buildings of this institution, which was noticed in the HERALD of yesterday, will entail on the Catholic community in this vicinity a much heavier loss than would be at first supposed. The buildings themselves were models of architecture, and the opportunities and advantages offered by the college were equal, if